LEDIEUT DOUDING COMMUNICATIONS SECTION 11:15 AM I'TGEDIATE 12-19-75 JN DIRECTOR (109-12-20)) NR . 227--LEGAT BUENOS AIRES (109-2) ARGENTINA; IS - ARGENTINA

REMYCABS DECEMBER 18, 1975.

TO

FROM

FOREIGN POLITICAL

BY DECREE DRAWN UP DURING THE AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 18. 1975, BUT ONLY MADE PUBLIC AT 11:00 P. M., DECEMBER 18, 1975. THE ARGENTINE EXECUTIVE REPLACED GENERAL FAUTARIO AS ARGENTINE AIR FORCE COMMANDER WITH GENERAL ORLANDO XAGOSTI. A RELATIVELY JUNIOR ARGENTINE WPR FORCE GENERAL. THIS ACTION FORCES THE RETIREMENT OF SEVERAL ARGENTINE AIR FORCE GENERALS SENIOR TO AGOSTI, WHO WERE CONSIDERED TO BE SUPPORTERS OF FAUTARIO.

ARGENTINE AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT OVERFLEW DOWNTOWN BUENOS AIRES BETWEEN 5:30 P. M. AND 10:00 P. M., DECEMBER 18, 1975, DROPPING LEAFLETS CALLING ON THE ARGENTINE ARMED FORCES TO OUST PRESIDENT PERON AND FOR THE INSTALLATION OF ARGENTINE ARMY COMMANDER GENERAL VIDELA AS CHIEF OF STATE. GENERAL VIDELA HASTILY RETURNED TO BUENOS AIRES FROM CARACAS, VENEZUELA, WHERE HE WAS ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT, DURING THE LATE EVENING OF DECEMBER 18, 1975. AS OF 9:00 A. M, DECEMBER 19, 1975, THE END PAGE ONE

JAN 7 1976

Laboratory Plan. & Eval. Spec. Inv. Training Legal Coun. Telephone Rm. Director Suc'y

Dep.-A.D.-Inv. Asst. Dir.: Admin. Comp. Syst. Ext. Affair Files & C Gen. Inv. Ident.

Inspection

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BUE 109-2

ARMY AND NAVY HAD NOT MOVED TO JOIN IN THE ARGENTINE AIR FORCE REBELLION.

REBEL ARGENTINE AIR FORCE ELEMETS CONTINUE TO HOLD THE MORON AIR FORCE BASE OUTSIDE OF BUENOS AIRES AND THE JORGE NEWBERY DOWNTOWN AIRPORT. THERE ARE UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT AN ARGENTINE AIR FORCE SABRE JET BASE IN MENDOZA MAY NOW BE BACKING THE DECEMBER 18, 1975, REBELLION. APPARENTLY SENSING THAT THE DECEMBER 18, 1975, ARGENTINE AIR FORCE REBELLION MIGHT POSSIBLY EXPAND TO A FULL COUP D'ETW, DURING THE DECEMBER 18, 1975, EVENING SESSION OF THE ARGENTINE CONGRESS THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES DISSIDENT WORKING GROUP CALLED FOR PRESIDENT PERON'S RESIGNATION AND RECOMMENDED THAT, SHOULD THE PRESIDENT REFUSE, IMMEDIATE IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS BE INSTITUTED.

BUENOS AIRES IS CALM DURING THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 19, 1975. WITH PEOPLE GOING ABOUT THEIR NORMAL DAILY BUSINESS.

FOREGOING HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE BUENOS AIRES EMBASSY TO THE 7. S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE VIA STATE DEPARTMENT CHANNELS.

IT IS BEING PROVIDED ONLY FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU.

PERSONNEL ARE TAKING APPROPRIATE SECURITY MEASURES.

END.